

## CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION GRANTS & BLUE STAR MARKERS

Due to extra contributions from the Civic Beautification Memorial Fund we had a total of \$3,010 in the Grant fund for 2025. However, for the first time ever there we received only one application. \$402 was awarded to the Victor Garden Club to purchase self-watering hanging baskets. These were to be incorporated into the new landscaping and signage for the new Harlan Fisher Dog Park on Lynaugh Road, Victor, which the club maintains.

At the same time National Garden Club President Donna Donnelly put out a plea to all garden clubs across the country who have a Blue Star Memorial asking them to help celebrate America's 250th anniversary by adding red, white and blue flowers around the markers this year. To make this happen in our area the 7th District Executive Board approved a suggestion that we use some of the remaining grant funds to cover the cost of purchasing the plants. As a result checks for \$100 were given to the Presidents of all the clubs who maintain a marker at our April MCM.

We felt this was a special way to help reimburse clubs for all the good work they do in their communities but it came with a caveat. We asked all clubs who received a check to take a photo of their flowers and send a copy to the Herald editor and also to Dorothy Grant who is Blue Star Memorial chair for our District and FGCNYS.

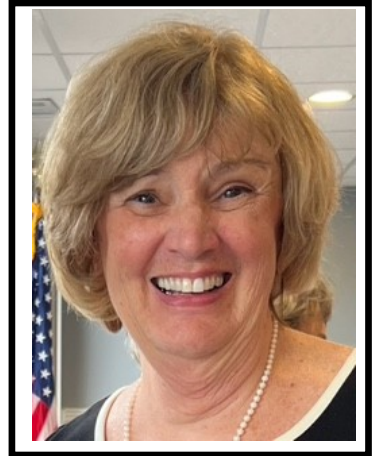
We look forward to seeing some spectacular photos.

Anne Johnston, Civic Beautification Chair  
Dorothy Grant, NYS Blue Star Chair



“Members of Fairport, Four Seasons and Greenbrier Garden Clubs with their Blue Star memorial at the Fairport Library.”

## Carolyn's Message



Has the rain stopped? Let's hope!

I hope also that your Club's plant sale did not get rained out and proved successful for your treasury!

Gardeners are the most hopeful people. How often have you spoken to your plants and said "I hope you grow!" This summer is the longest as Memorial Day is early and Labor Day is late. This gives us many days to enjoy the best time of the year in western New York. We can hope that this summer is full of sunshine and great growing weather.

As a District we will be having our "Christmas in July" Flower Show so everyone can show off all their hard work and creativity. Please plan to attend and support everyone who has worked so long and hard. It will be beautiful! I hope to see you there!

Carolyn

### **SAVE THE DATE**

**7th District Federated Garden Clubs of NYS, Inc.**

**Invites you to:**

**"CHRISTMAS IN JULY"**

**a National Garden Club Standard Flower Show**

**Step into a winter wonderland in the heat of summer!**

**Damascus Shrine Center**

**979 Bay Road, Webster, NY 14580**

**THURSDAY, JULY 23rd, 2026**

**1:00 to 5:00 p.m**

## Book of Recognition 2026

On May 6, 2026, at our Annual meeting, we were delighted to continue a cherished tradition—honoring remarkable club members through the Book of Recognition. This special recognition celebrates individuals who have gone above and beyond through exceptional service to their club, involvement at the District or State level, special achievements, or memorial remembrance.

This year, we proudly recognized six outstanding members—women whose dedication, enthusiasm, and leadership truly enrich our clubs and inspire us all:

Laurel Ford, Crystal Brown and Pat Delperdange, Town of Ontario Garden Club

Vicky Munson, Sonnenberg Garden Club

Joanne Ristuccia, Lakeview Garden Club

Joan Gerber, Klemwood Garden Club

Each honoree has made meaningful contributions to their club and community. We encourage everyone to take time to read about their accomplishments in the Book of Recognition. The Books will be available for viewing in November 2026, and the listings may always be found on our website.

Looking ahead, the next opportunity to recognize deserving club members will be at our Semi-Annual Meeting in November 2026. Please consider nominating someone who makes a difference in your club.

Submit your candidate(s)' name(s) by October 1, 2026 to:

Diane Gribben

18 Ranney Drive

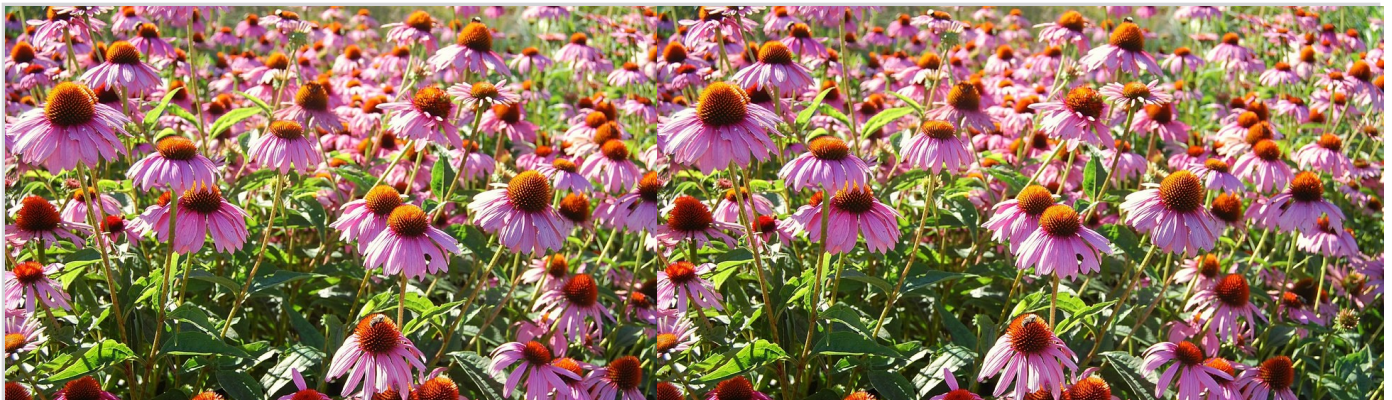
Fairport, NY 14450

Dianejgribben@gmail.com

Each nomination should include a brief statement describing your candidate's contributions, along with a \$15.00 check per recommendation, payable to:

7th District, Federated Garden Clubs of N.Y.S., Inc.

Diane Gribben, Book of Recognition Chair





**September Meet and Greet, Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 ~ BRING A FRIEND!**

**Victor Parks and Recreation, Victor, NY 9:30 am – 12 noon**

**9:30am:** Greeting, we will provide Coffee, Munchies, Water & Iced Tea will be available.

**10:00: Introduction to 7<sup>th</sup> Dist. Director and board**

Get to know your neighbors' activities:

- We would like 7<sup>th</sup> Dist. Clubs to interact with each other and learn some of the great tips from our successful clubs. Supporting each other and sharing ideas is the goal of this time.

**10:30: Breakout sessions ~ small groups**

We will have breakout sessions for each club office:

1. Presidents/ Vice Presidents
  2. Corresponding Secretary/ Recording Secretary
  3. Treasurer/ Asst. Treasurer
  4. Yearbook (Please bring a copy of your club's yearbook to share)
  5. Membership
- Past, Present and Future: Our goal is to provide a time to meet other club officers and share ideas as well as find out what your main responsibilities are for that position. We will need Current Officers, Potential Officers as well as well seasoned ones to share what concerns each of you might have. The goal is to assist our clubs with successful, organized and productive club meetings

**11:30 Large Group / Open time to meet Director Carolyne Peck and Exec Board**

- Return to the large group to meet with Director and the Exec Board. Open to additional group questions/ answers
- Sharing interesting programs and other concerns

**12 noon Adjournment**

**~ RSVP by August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to toomski35@gmail.com (Sue Toomey)**

**Sign up for your session - check off your choice of small group**

President & VP \_\_\_\_\_ / Corresponding Secretary & Recording Sec. \_\_\_\_\_ / Treasurer & Asst. Treas \_\_\_\_\_ / Yearbook \_\_\_\_\_ / Membership \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name & Club Name \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Questions for the group to be answered at this meeting: \_\_\_\_\_



## World Gardening



As everyone finishes up their garden club flower sales, please remember the two organizations, Dig Deep, trying to bring clean water to the people of the Southwestern United States, Appalachia and the Colonias of Texas and Water for South Sudan bringing water to the people of South Sudan. Each group works to help others in need of clean water.

**In South Sudan**, the drilling season is over until December as the roads are not passable for the heavy equipment. During the past season, they drilled 35 new wells; rehabbed 35 wells with new concrete and fencing; built 4 latrines; and built 3 water storage facilities that serve 2000 people each. Each rehab of a well, costs \$4000 and a new well cost \$20,000 now. They have also helped the group “Transform South Sudan” by drilling a well near their clinic. They plan their drilling around areas that are in need of water, but are also safe for the workers.

**Dig Deep** works in three areas – The Navajo Country, where it is already setting heat records, Appalachia where water has been affected by pollution from the coal mines and other drilling and Colonias in Texas where some have never had access to running water. In 2026, they are prioritizing long term, low maintenance solutions like water line connections that are permanent and sustainable. In the first quarter of 2026, they have served more than 1300 community members and delivered more than 290,000 gallons of water.

To quote a colleague, let us all try to ‘lean into joy’ and help others to have hope. Thank you to all the clubs who have already made donations.

Janet Lockhart

7<sup>th</sup> District World Gardening Rep

### DEADLINES FOR THE HERALD

**Spring Issue—April, May, June deadline March 1**

**Summer Issue—July, August, September deadline June 1**

**Fall Issue— Oct., Nov., Dec. deadline September 1**

**Winter Issue— Jan., Feb., March deadline December 1**

All changes of address, deletions or additions to Garden Clubs roosters should be given as soon as possible to **Your Club President**

**Editor, Sandy Ebberts, 585-924-1916, or**

**Email at slebberts@rochester.rr.com**

### Advertising

2 1/4 X 4" (vertical only)	Garden Club . . . \$25.per issue	Others....\$30. per issue
4" x 4" (Quarter page)	Garden Club .... \$45.per issue	Others.... \$50. per issue
5" x 7" (Half Page)	Garden Club.... \$85.per issue	Others...\$100 per issue
7" x 9" (Full Page)	Garden Club ....\$125.per issue	Others ...\$125. per issue

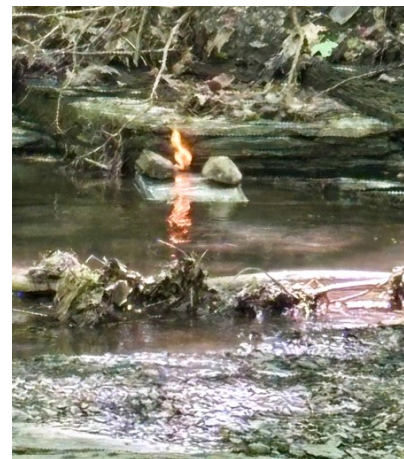
All District Garden Clubs are entitled to a free 2 line event announcement in the Herald Calendar. Any additional information will require an ad.

## Bristol Burning Springs

I had the opportunity to attend the Bristol Hills Historical Society annual opening at the historic Burning Springs site this year. The site is privately owned and is only open 2 days a year. The history of



this site dates to the Seneca Tribe but the first white men to visit Bristol were the French explorer, Robert LaSalle, and the Jesuit missionary, Galinee in 1669. In the diary of Galinee states that “to pass the time waiting for an Iroquois escort to Ohio their



Indian hosts from Ganondagan took them to see the amazing spring. The water was clear but has a bad odor, like that of mineral marshes of Paris, when the mud is stirred with the foot. I applied a torch and the water immediately

took fire and burned like brandy and was not extinguished until it rained.”<sup>1</sup> It was said that this is internationally notated on several early maps. It is not seen natural gas. This weekend it was a site with beautiful gardens, plein-air painters and with to navigate visitors falls showing off a in the stream.



the Mud Creek bed low enough could hike up to a lovely water-few isolated flames on display

For more history- <https://bristolhillshistory.org/burning-springs>

Submitted by Sue Toomey, Parks/Historic Landscapes/Historic Preservation Chair- 5/26

<sup>1</sup> Bristol Hills Historical Society, Beth Hall Thomas, Town Historian Bristol and S. Bristol, 2026



**Section III** continued

**Lakeview Garden Club:** Submitted by Joanne Ristuccia, President Spring is "in the air and in our gardens! Finally! We are thankful for the \$100 stipend from the district in planting our Blue Star Memorial at Ontario Beach Park. Plans are in the works. We have acquired another new member and are looking forward to having another pair of hands (and a shovel) joining us in our community gardens this year. Club program for the month of **April** will highlight "A.I. (artificial intelligence) In Healthcare". Presented by club member Bonnie Boulevant.

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**Section IV**— submitted by Dawn Borgeest and Jo Anne Shannon—No Report**Section V**—submitted by Marlene Moran - No Report**Section VI**— submitted by Sue Broda

**Creative Gardeners of Penfield-Janet Lockhart** In **March**, our speaker was Suzanne Feathers, from the Cornell Cooperative Extension. She spoke about "Ten Ways to combat climate change in our own backyard." She spoke about the small changes that can make an impact. Simple things you can do to help the environment. In **April**, our speaker was Liz Magnanti, co-owner of the Bird House in Pittsford. She told us about how we can attract birds to our backyards and wonderful tools to help them thrive; from birdhouses, to the right seeds to attract certain birds. In **May** our club group activity was to create items we could sell at our Art and Garden Sale that occurred on May15 & 16. We made plant markers with scrabble tiles, baskets using all kinds of lettuce and some baskets with herbs. We created hot pads with wine corks and made gnome pots complete with beards and succulents. A creative time was had by all, thanks to our program planners.

**Fairport Garden Club-Diane Gribben** Our **March** meeting was held at the Memorial Art Gallery, where members enjoyed a guided tour of the new exhibits. Following the tour, we created artistic covers for notebooks provided by the gallery. In **April**, Angela Masciangelo of the Dahlia Society presented an informative and engaging program on dahlias. Each member received a corm to plant, and we were pleased to welcome four new members to the club at this meeting. The **May** meeting focused on signing up for hostess duties for the coming year, planning potluck suppers, and organizing other club activities. After these items were addressed, we turned our attention to the Christmas in July Flower Show and discussed how our members can participate.

**Four Seasons Garden Club-Julie Grace** In **March** Anne Johnston gave a demonstration on growing microgreens in a shallow plastic container. She discussed the different types of microgreens that can be cultivated and enjoyed in salads. In **April** we made 25 spring centerpieces using brightly sprayed tin cans as containers. The containers were decorated with ladybugs and butterflies and then filled with pansies. The centerpieces were donated to the Friendly Home. In **May**, we visited the Peony Festival at Linwood Gardens.

**Greenbrier Garden Club-Kathy Keogh** In **April** our club met at the home of Roberta DiLilla's for a presentation by Davey Tree Service. Our May meeting was at Emily Webster's home to prepare for our plant sale. Our successful plant sale was held on **May 9** at the Perinton Historical Museum. Our **June** outing will be special since it is the celebration of our 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We will be making a trip to Auburn for lunch at the Elderberry Pond Restaurant and will then visit the Dickman Farm Nursery. This summer, we plan to visit some gardens in the area.

## Section VII— submitted by Sue Yonda

**Macedon Garden Club** - In **March** we planted LUCK and succulents with Pat Bartholmew, in **April** we had our annual banquet dinner and this **May** we got really dirty making living wreaths. We used wreath forms, moss and dirt and plants, it was harder than it looks. Gardening outside will be less messy we hope, Happy Planting to all!!



**Newark Garden Club:** submitted by Sue Yonda **March-** First meeting of the year was attended by several members to discuss the upcoming year. **April-** Garden Therapy Committee met to prepare for our upcoming visit to the Wayne County Nursing Home. Cloth tote bags were stenciled for the residents to decorate. Nine members enjoyed the luncheon held at the Webster Golf Club. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual plant sale fund raiser was held. Monies obtained from this event will go to support our Garden Therapy projects. Members took part in Newark's Community Pride Day activities. Flower planters were filled with annuals throughout the village. Finally, members planted red, white and blue flowers in Newark's Central Park planting beds. The Blue Star Memorial was also planted with red, white and blue flowers. Elliott Park was similarly planted and decorated with American flags.

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## Section VIII—submitted by Elaine Munson and Mae Church

**Country Gardeners of Webster** We've had a busy and productive few months! At our **March** meeting, we welcomed guest speaker Megan Meyer, who gave a highly informative presentation on native shrubs. **April** brought our Annual Meeting, where members shared their favorite dishes along with their favorite gardening tools. Everyone left with great new ideas to add to their gardening tool collection. In **May**, our meeting theme was "Gardening with Glassware." It was a wonderfully creative evening where members transformed worn-out items into imaginative garden treasures. Our Arboretum Plant Sale was a tremendous success this year! We sold out of most of our plants and raised additional funds for Dig Deep by raffling off a beautiful purple rhododendron. Members have also been hard at work planting the Webster Village planters and maintaining the Town Hall garden. At the Webster Arboretum, members completed a spring cleanup and added several new plants and shrubs to the garden.

**Town of Ontario March-**we enjoyed a presentation about Busy Worms, K & C Worm Farms. They discussed the actions of worms to produce compost that is highly beneficial to our gardens. We voted in our new officers in our club. **April**—Carol Stahl installed our new slate of officers. Afterwards, we had a small luncheon. Mary and Laurel spoke about our up-and-coming plant sale. We planted a tree in Casey Park for Arbor Day, a Sweet Gum Tree. **May**—we had a speaker from the Zurich Bog in Arcadia Wayne County. We sent out a sign-up sheet for watering our town planter. Three of our members were inducted into the Book of Recognition. **June**— out of town meeting at Iris Country Gardens in Geneva. Tour of the gardens then off to lunch. See you next September.

# 2026 AWARDS

### Conservation Citation

Conesus Lake Garden Club  
 Country Gardeners of Webster Garden Club  
 Creative Gardeners of Penfield Garden Club  
 Four Seasons Garden Club  
 Gates Garden Club  
 Geneseo Garden Club  
 Greenbriar Garden Club  
 Newark Garden Club  
 Rochester Garden Club  
 Town of Ontario Garden Club  
 Victor Garden Club

### Conservation Certificate

Bloomfield Garden Club  
 Colony Garden Club

### Civic Beautification Citation

Bloomfield Garden Club  
 Conesus Lake Garden Club  
 Country Gardeners of Webster Garden Club  
 Creative Gardeners of Penfield Garden Club  
 Fairport Garden Club  
 Gates Garden Club  
 Geneseo Garden Club  
 Greenbriar Garden Club  
 Lakeview Garden Club  
 Newark Garden Club  
 Rochester Garden Club  
 Sonnenberg Garden Club  
 Town of Ontario Garden Club  
 Victor Garden Club

### Flower Show / Critique Citation

Country Gardeners of Webster  
 Rochester Garden Club

### Flower Show / Critique Certificate

Sonnenberg Garden Club

### Garden Therapy Citation

Creative Gardeners of Penfield Garden Club  
 Fairport Garden Club  
 Four Seasons Garden Club  
 Geneseo Garden Club  
 Newark Garden Club  
 Rochester Garden Club  
 Town of Ontario Garden Club

### Historic Preservation Citation

Country Gardeners of Webster Garden Club  
 Creative Gardeners of Penfield  
 Four Seasons Garden Club  
 Gates Garden club  
 Geneseo Garden Club  
 Hubbard Springs of Chili Garden Club  
 Lakeview Garden Club  
 Rochester Garden Club  
 Sonnenberg Garden Club  
 Town of Ontario Garden Club

### Historic Preservation Certificate

Conesus Lake Garden Club

### Horticulture Citation

Creative Gardeners of Penfield Garden Club  
 Fairport Garden Club  
 Four Seasons Garden Club  
 Gates Garden Club  
 Geneseo Garden Club  
 Lakeview Garden Club  
 Newark Garden Club  
 Rochester Garden Club  
 Sonnenberg Garden Club  
 Town of Ontario Garden Club  
 Victor Garden Club

### Horticulture Certificate

Greenbriar Garden Club  
 Lakeview Garden Club

### Special Projects Citation

Conesus Lake Garden Club  
 Country Gardeners of Webster Garden Club  
 Creative Gardeners of Penfield Garden Club  
 Fairport Garden Club  
 Gates Garden Club  
 Greenbriar Garden Club  
 Geneseo Garden Club  
 Hubbard Springs Garden Club  
 Lakeview Garden Club  
 Newark Garden Club  
 Rochester Garden Club  
 Sonnenberg Garden Club  
 Town of Ontario Garden Club  
 Victor Garden Club

### Special Projects Certificate

Four Seasons Garden Club  
 Greenbriar Garden Club  
 Sonnenberg Garden Club

### Youth Citation

Conesus Lake Garden Club  
 Country Gardeners of Webster Garden Club  
 Fairport Garden Club  
 Gates Garden Club  
 Geneseo Garden Club  
 Rochester Garden Club  
 Town of Ontario Garden Club  
 Victor Garden Club

### Youth Certificate

Four Seasons Garden Club  
 Greenbriar Garden Club

### World Gardening Citation

Bloomfield Garden Club  
 Colony Garden Club  
 Conesus Lake Garden Club  
 Country Gardeners of Webster Garden Club  
 Creative Gardeners of Penfield Garden Club  
 Fairport Garden Club  
 Four Seasons Garden Club  
 Gates Garden Club  
 Geneseo Garden Club  
 Greenbriar Garden Club  
 Hubbard Springs of Chili Garden Club  
 Lakeview Garden Club  
 Newark Garden Club  
 Rochester Garden Club  
 Sonnenberg Garden Club  
 Town of Ontario Garden Club  
 Victor Garden Club



## Programs recommended by Clubs of the 7th District

- • Ganondagan Historic Site-visit and tour
- • Tour of Norbut Solar Farms: Michael Moore, General Farm Manager, (859.613.0088) [www.norbut solar farms.com](http://www.norbut solar farms.com)
- • Pruning Q & A, Matt Teague, Davey Tree and Landscape, [MatthewTeague@davey.com](mailto:MatthewTeague@davey.com)
- • Bill Whitney, head of Daffodil Project at Mt. Hope Cemetery, listed in Speaker's book
- • Joe Hurley, Kettle Ridge Farm.
- • "Edible and Medicinal Plants" by Russell Welser, Master Gardener, Ontario Cornell-Co-Extension.
- • Pat Bartholomew, making a holiday arrangement
- • Small space Gardening by Bonnie Knike, Monroe County Co-op Extension, 585.753.2550
- • History of the Erie Canal by Bonnie Boulivant
- • "Boulders, Rocks, and Pebbles" by Bonnie Boulivant
- • Slide presentation about birds by Bonnie Boulivant
- • Garden Tour by Bonnie Boulivant
- • "All about Bees" by Tom Kingsley, President of the Ontario Finger Lakes Beekeepers Assn.
- • "Most Valued Plants" by Jack Kowaik, [jackkowaik.com](http://jackkowaik.com), [97blueberries@gmail.com](mailto:97blueberries@gmail.com), 585.247-8799
- • Hans Kunze tour of farm and greenhouse: 585.813.2676; 6340 LaGrange Rd, Wyoming County
- • "Gardening with Deer in Mind" by Carol Southby. [csouthby@rr.rochester.com](mailto:csouthby@rr.rochester.com)
- • Livingston County Economic Development Update by Louise Wadsworth, 585.243.0930
- • "Hydroponic Growing" by Sue Ackerman 585.615.8799
- • Vanlare Water Treatment Plant, contact  
[JeffreyWallace@monroecounty.gov](mailto:JeffreyWallace@monroecounty.gov)
- • Tour of Broccolo's B Friendly Farm in Penfield
- • "Saving Nature with your Yard" by Doug Tallamy [homegrownnationalparks.org](http://homegrownnationalparks.org)
- • Photography by Mary Jo Hoffman, [maryjo@stillblog.net](mailto:maryjo@stillblog.net)
- • Tour of Maxwell Inn, Naples, NY. Wayne Buchar (tour guide)
- • "Holiday Floral Designs" by Vicky Munson(Don's Own Flower Shop, Geneva, NY) 315.789.2554
- • Terrariums by Kathy Fedison, [kefed1@aol.com](mailto:kefed1@aol.com)
- • Botanical Garden Presentation by Denise Paley

## *Civic Beautification*

### *In Memory of*

*Betty A. VanAuken, a 37-year member of the Newark Club, given fondly by the Members of the Newark Garden Club, May 2026*

*Mark Broda, husband of Sue Broda, Board Chair of 7<sup>th</sup> District, given by Four Seasons Garden Club, March, 2026*

*Mark Broda, husband of Sue Broda, Board Chair of 7<sup>th</sup> District, given by friend Joyce A. Lyle, March, 2026*

*Ellen Van Dyke, 7<sup>th</sup> District Director from 1995 - 1997, by FGCMYS, Inc., Seventh District, May 2026*

*Ellen Van Dyke, 7<sup>th</sup> District Judges Council, by Judges Council Members, May 2026, a member of the Bloomfield Garden Club*



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# Annual Meeting

